

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, EE C, EGEN

SUBJECT: EC MEMBER STATE DISCUSSION OF THE BRITISH DRAFT
DECLARATION FOR THE OECD MINISTERIAL

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 4344 B) OECD PARIS 12420

C) OECD PARIS 12421

1. ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN THE UK PERMDEL THE UK HAS BEEN
INTERESTED IN HAVING TWO DOCUMENTS COME OUT OF THE OECD
MINISTERIAL: (1) A GENERAL AND DECLARATORY DOCUMENT STATING
THAT THE DCs UNDERSTAND LDC PROBLEMS, INTEND TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT
THEM AND LOOK TO THE LDCs NOT TO ADOPT A CONFRONTATIONAL
POLICY. THIS DOCUMENT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY MENTION
RAW MATERIALS; (2) A STATEMENT ON RAW MATERIALS WHICH WOULD
NOT NECESSARILY BE ISSUED IN THE FORM OF A DECLARATION.

2. THE BRITISH AIM FOR MAY 15-16 PEMREP DISCUSSIONS
WAS TO GET EC ENDORSEMENT FOR ITS GENERAL STATEMENT. THE COREPER
DISCUSSIONS WERE NOT CONCLUSIVE HOWEVER, AND OUR SOURCE
BELIEVES THAT A FINAL DECISION MUST AWAIT NEXT WEEK'S COREPER.

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HOWEVER, HE DOUBTS THAT

EVEN NEXT WEEK'S COREPER WILL BRING AN EC ENDORSEMENT OF THE UK DECLARATION. THE UK MIGHT THEN CONSIDER TABLING ITS DECLARATION, OR SOMETHING CLOSE TO IT, IN THE OECD STATING THAT IT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AMONG THE NINE AND HAD FOUND SOME MEASURE OF AGREEMENT. THE UK IS WEDDED TO ITS PURPOSE OF PERSUADING THE OECD MINISTERIAL TO ISSUE A DECLARATION ("WHICH AT ITS WORST INTERPRETATION WOULD SERVE TO SPIKE THE GUNS OF THE 77 AND AT ITS BEST WOULD SHOW THAT THE OECD IS WILLING NOW TO UNDERTAKE GENERAL COMMITMENTS.")

3. THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS IN THE COREPER DISCUSSION STEMMED FROM THE GERMANS, WHO ARE STILL BRAINSTORMING IN BONN AND WHO ARE CONSEQUENTLY NOT YET WILLING TO ADOPT ANY POSITION IN BRUSSELS AND SEVERAL OF THE OTHER MEMBER STATES, PRINCIPALLY THE DUTCH, WHO THINK THAT THE BRITISH DECLARATION IS TOO WEAK, THE BRITISH ARE WILLING TO STRENGTHEN THEIR DECLARATION SOMEWHAT. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE BRITISH PURPOSES, IS TO AVOID ANYTHING WHICH WOULD BE UNREALISTIC IN ITS SIGHTS.

4. IN REGARD TO THE SECOND STATEMENT/DECLARATION ON RAW MATERIALS, THE BRITISH ANTICIPATE THAT THE COREPER WILL WORK FROM THE PAPER WHICH IS TO BE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION ON THE 21ST AND DISCUSSED IN THE COREPER ON THE 22ND. OUR SOURCE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE THAT THE COREPER WILL BEGIN INDEPENDENT DISCUSSIONS ON RAW MATERIALS UNTIL IT HAS THE COMMISSION PAPER. HOWEVER, OUR SOURCE SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH THE UK IS NOW DEVOTING MOST OF ITS EFFORT TO THE GENERAL DECLARATION IT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SOME STATEMENT ON COMMODITIES. HE VENTURED THE OPINION THAT THE NINE WANT TO HAVE A DEFINITE IMPACT ON THE LDCS AND WILL RESIST ANY EFFORT IN THE OECD TO WATER DOWN WHATEVER THEY COME UP WITH ON THE RAW MATERIALS QUESTION. GREENWALD

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